

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01394 260535Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W
-----260648Z 049834 /15

R 251521Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2765
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

UNCLAS PRAGUE 1394

AGRICULTURE FAS FOR F & O

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, CZ
SUBJ: QUALITY U.S. SOYBEAN MEAL IMPORTS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF : STATE 53232

1. ON MAY 24 AGATT DISCUSSED QUALITY PROBLEM OF U.S. SOYBEAN MEAL WITH KOOSPOL OFFICIALS.
 2. PROBLEM OF QUALITY WITH U.S. SOYBEAN MEAL TODAY LESS FREQUENT THAN DURING 1976 WHEN U.S. MEAL PROCESSED FROM 1975 BEAN CROP CAME UNDER CONSTANT CRITICISM FOR LACK OF PROTEIN CONTENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. MOST QUALITY PROBLEMS WERE ASSOCIATED WITH LOTS SHIPPED FROM NORFOLK WHICH HANDLES RELATIVELY SMALL PROPORTION OF SHIPMENTS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. MOST IMPORTS COME FROM GULF PORTS.
 3. KOOSPOL AT LOSS TO EXPLAIN WHY QUALITY PROBLEMS LARGELY LIMITED TO NORFOLK. THERE IS DIFFICULTY TO TRACE IDENTITY OF MEAL BACK TO SINGLE SELLER OR TO SPECIFIC REGION OF PRODUCTION.
 4. DURING DISCUSSION AGATT EMPHASIZED U.S. CONCERN ABOUT QUALITY PROBLEM AND ASSURED KOOSPOL U.S. CAN SUPPLY 44 PERCENT PROTEIN
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PAGE 02 PRAGUE 01394 260535Z

MEAL PROVIDED BUYER WILLING TO PAY HIGHER PRICE. SUBSTANCE REFTTEL DEMONSTRATED HOW NSPA TRADING RULES SHOULD BE USED TO ASSURE DELIVERY DESIRED QUALITY U.S. MEAL.

5. KOOSPOL APPRECIATED ABOVE EXPLANATION BUT WONDERED HOW MUCH MORE IT WOULD COST TO AVOID QUALITY PROBLEM. HE SAID HE KNEW OF ONLY TWO SPECIFICATIONS UNDER WHICH BULK OF U.S. MEAL

ENTERS FOREIGN TRADE: EITHER A HIGH PROTEIN 50 PERCENT MEAL OR MEAL BASED ON 44 PERCENT PF AND 8 1/2 PERCENT FIBER CONTENT. ANY DEVIATION FROM THESE 2 SPECIFICATIONS WOULD ADD SUBSTANTIAL COST TO PURCHASE PRICE SINCE IT WOULD REQUIRE SPECIAL REMIXING OF HULLS, STORAGE AND HANDLING.

6. COMMENT: SURPRISED MOST PROBLEMS WITH QUALITY OF U.S. MEAL IN PAST LARGELY LIMITED TO SHIPMENTS FROM NORFOLK. THIS APPEARS TO NARROW DOWN SOURCE OF PROBLEM SUBSTANTIALY. OF COURSE IT IS PLEASANT NEWS, QUALITY PROBLEMS WITH U.S. MEAL ARE FEWER TODAY THAN THEY WERE LAST YEAR.

BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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